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29 April 1981

# Worldwide Report

TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY,  
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

No. 160

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29 April 1981

WORLDWIDE REPORT  
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WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

LATIN AMERICAN, ARAB NEWS AGENCIES SET EXCHANGE

FL061322 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0520 GMT 6 Apr 81

[Report by Laura Castro]

[Excerpts] Acapulco, Guerrero State, 5 Apr (NOTIMEX)--The second meeting of Arab and Latin American news agencies ended here today, emphasizing the efforts made by the Federation of Arab National News Agencies (FANA) and the action of the National Information Systems (ASIN) of Central and South America to consolidate the exchange of information between the two regions of the world.

The participants in the meeting, which had opened yesterday, unanimously resolved in the final document that ASIN and FANA would exchange information through the telecommunications network of the operational secretariat of the national information systems--which is the Inter Press Agency Service (IPS), with headquarters in Rome, Italy. Therefore, ASIN will send to all interested Arab agencies a daily 16,000-word bulletin in English. In turn, ASIN-member countries will receive from the Arab agencies, using the same means, a daily 16,000-word bulletin in English and Spanish.

The purpose of this resolution in the final document is to expand the knowledge of the member states of ASIN and FANA so as to strengthen the North-South dialogue. If they so wish, Latin American and Caribbean countries that are not members of ASIN can receive the bulletin from the Arab countries and send news on their respective countries to the Arab region.

The final document further states the need to form a committee to schedule scholarships on a 3-year plan, initially calling for 25 the first year, 30 the second and 50 the third. The aim is to exchange communications professionals so as to train news agencies personnel to better handle and disseminate news.

The participants in this second meeting also approved the suggestion of the MOROCCAN NEWS AGENCY (MAP) director general, Abdel Jalil Fenyiro, to hold the third meeting of Arab and Latin American news agencies next year in Tangier, Morocco. The directors of Arab and Latin American news agencies will be received by Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo tomorrow at 1700.

CSO: 5500/2190

FINLAND'S ERICSSON LOOKS TO USSR FOR KNOW-HOW EXPORTS

Helsinki HUFVUDSTADSBLADET in Swedish 13 Feb 81 p 16

[Text] LM Ericsson Company's turnover was 340 million marks in 1980 compared with 320 million marks in 1979. The company's incoming orders rose to 375 million marks (288 million marks in 1979) and the unfilled orders rose to 250 million marks (220 million marks in 1979), 44 percent of turnover, meaning that 148 million marks worth of goods was exported.

Corresponding figures for 1979 were 40 percent and 130 million marks. This includes a significant export of technical work, primarily software and installations. The main part of this export, the value of which rose from 4.6 million marks in 1979 to 7.7 million marks in 1980, consists of export of telephone and sundry programs and system plans for telecommunications exchanges.

At the end of 1980 the company had 1053 employees.

Last year the company began series production of the new generation of electronic Diavox telephone apparatus and increased production of special telephones. In August 1980 the Jorvas factory manufactured the three millionth Finnish telephone. Altogether 198,500 telephones were manufactured, of which 54,500 were exported. Contracts were signed with postal and telegraph authorities and with Puhelinlaitosten Hankintaosuuskunta for delivery of at least 200,000 telephones and 20,000 special telephones during 1980-81. The factory in Brahestad delivered the first series of new field telephones to the defense forces.

The investments of the firm during recent years have been especially aimed at the new technology, meaning LM Ericsson's world famous AXE system. Because of that, the firm reached the point at the end of 1980 where, with the exception of the manufacture of components, a turnkey contract guarantees the delivery of a digital telecommunications package which represents the entire internal plans and production for the domestic and overseas market.

At home the company concluded contracts during 1980 for delivery of digital exchanges with the postal and telegraph authorities, Tampereen Puhelinosuuskunta, Paijat-Hameen Puhelinyhdistys and Rauman Seudun Puhelin Oy.



## Too Little Market

The managing director of the company, Yngve Ollus, said, "At the same time as the prospects for the telecommunications branch expand, the competition also increases. LM Ericsson company continues to supply more than half of the domestic market. Even if the company is able to retain its share, without export it will be unable to maintain full employment in its factories.

"Structural changes which are happening in the branch, meaning the shift over to digital techniques and electronics in the large exchanges, reduce the labor demands by one-third for a telephone subscriber's connection. That should imply about a threefold market in order to maintain employment at a constant level," said Ollus.

In an effort to maintain continued employment the company has directed its attention to the Soviet Union, where it recently concluded a contract for an installation worth about 35 million marks. Based on discussions with representatives of the customer concerned, the company sees that contract as the beginning of increasing AXE business in the coming year.

"Our contract with the Soviet Union provides, beside a high grade of domestic work, a large input of software, meaning know-how in the most modern telecommunications techniques. In that area our competitive power in the future will be the very best," said Ollus.

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## WORLDWIDE AFFAIRS

### BRIEFS

LAO, SOVIET SATELLITE STATION--On 18 April, cadres and workers of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications and the Ministry of Communication, Public Works and Transportation, jointly with staff members of the Soviet Embassy in Laos in their Saturday labor contribution, built an earth-satellite station at Kilometer Marker 52 on the road to Phon Hong with a view to scoring an achievement to welcome the 111th birthday of Lenin. In their labor contribution, they filled up the ground for the equipment site with some 30 cubic meters of dirt. The construction of this earth-satellite station has been 40 percent completed. It is expected that the construction will be completed by July. [Text] [BK211337 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 19 Apr 81]

FRG LAUNCHING SITE IN SYRIA--London, 20 Apr (Special for HA'ARETZ)--A West German arms manufacturer recently signed a contract with the Government of Syria for the construction of a satellite launching site. This was reported to me by military sources in London. According to the sources, the Munich-based ("Utarag") Company signed a contract similar to the one it had signed with Libya. The contract says German scientists and technicians will build communications satellites, to be launched from the pad in Syria, for consumers throughout the world. [Text] [TA211145 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Apr 81 p 1]

INDIA-BAHRAIN COOPERATION--India and Bahrain on Friday signed a protocol on cooperation in the field of mass media, reports UNI. The protocol was signed by Bahrain's Information Minister Tariq Abdul Rehman and his Indian counterpart Vasant Sathe. According to the protocol the press, radio, television and film agencies of the two countries, will endeavour for closer ties. The protocol provides for exchange of visits by journalists and TV personnel. The two countries have also agreed to exchange newsreel documentaries and to cooperate in the organisation of film weeks in Bahrain. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 28 Mar 81 p 8]

CSO: 5500

'REUTERS' TO EXPAND INFORMATION SERVICES IN ASIA

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 24 Mar 81 p 16

[Text]

Press Assn Wellington services is that any important news which might affect the price of a security being quoted, is flashed on to video screens within seconds to allow the Reuter subscriber to understand the reasons behind the price movements, and to act swiftly.

The manager of Reuters Asia, Australia and New Zealand, Mr Hans Ouwerkerk, has presented expansion plans to the company's Pacific board, calling for area extensions of the Reuter monitor, money dealing and shipping services, as well as a number of regional economic services.

"The rapid economic growth of the Asian-Pacific region, and the increasing sophistication of its financial and business markets, has encouraged a corresponding need for sophisticated financial information services," Mr Ouwerkerk said.

"It is essential for managers in this region to have immediate access to the same information that competitors and counterparts in New York, London, Paris, Zurich and Bahrain have."

Mr Ouwerkerk explained that subscribers using any one of the computer-based Reuter monitor services could also contribute their own market information and, if desired, make these quotations available to other overseas subscribers.

Reuters runs five information services: The monitor money rates, shipping, equities, bonds, and commodities services.

One prime feature of the

GOVERNMENT MAY MOVE TO RESTRICT TELECOM SATELLITE ROLE

Melbourne THE AGE in English 9 Mar 81 p 1

[Article by Lorenzo Boccabella]

[Excerpts] Canberra.--The Federal Government is considering restricting Telecom's ability to compete with the \$300 million domestic communications satellite system, which should be operating by 1985.

The satellite will provide a range of services, from business data to private telephone networks and radio and TV transmission, many of which Telecom now provides. [as published]

If the satellite is preferred in providing these services, Telecom will lose access to some profitable facilities.

It could lead to a rise in telephone call costs because Telecom cross-subsidises its services.

Restrictions on Telecom would be part of a general Government thrust to hand over services to private enterprise as a result of business pressure. Private companies will own 49 per cent of the satellite system.

The satellite is expected to provide business data services ranging from telex, links to computers, facsimiles (long-distance photo-copiers) and even private telephone networks used between companies or Government department to link offices across Australia.

In future, Telecom will depend on these types of services to maintain its profit.

The restrictions on Telecom competition will be in legislation to set up the Satellite Authority. Legislation may be passed in the current Parliament session.

A formal authority must be set up to accept tenders and allocate shareholders.

Any restrictions on Telecom would be similar to the proposed two airline agreement, which guarantees profits for a private airline and restricts Qantas from providing domestic flights.

In a separate move, the Minister for Communications, Mr Sinclair, announced on Saturday that a broad informal review of telecom services would be conducted by Mr Malcolm King. Mr King is a former deputy general manager and director of the Australian Energy and Super Conglomerate, CSR.

The inquiry would particularly examine areas where Telecom services overlap those of private industry, with a view to restricting Telecom's products and facilities.

Wide-ranging terms of reference for Mr King's review of Telecom are expected to be announced shortly.

CSO: 5500

## GOVERNMENT PRAISED FOR SUPPORT OF MICROELECTRONICS

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 10 Mar 81 p 20

[Text] DR BILL CAELLI, a leading figure in the computer industry, has welcomed the Government's recently confirmed commitment to the development of advanced technology industry in Australia.

Dr Caelli, chairman of the Australian Computer Society's National Hardware Technology and Hardware Industry Committee, heralded a recent statement by the Minister for Science and Technology, Mr David Thomson, as a major commitment to such development.

"The key concept of the development of an Australian capacity to produce specialised or 'applications oriented' microchips which can augment general purpose components obtained through an assured overseas supply has been one put forward for some time by this committee," Dr Caelli said last week.

"The key role of the new CSIRO VLSI design laboratory in this endeavor cannot be overemphasised, as the Minister has stated."

He said that, as the Minister had indicated, there were a number of alternatives that Australia must consider.

"If it is decided that Australia wishes to enter the microelectronics component industry in its own right, that is, to make and sell components either for local or overseas consumption, then a careful decision has to be made as to which sorts of components may be the best business decision."

"In this regard," he said, "support for the concept of manufacturing a limited range of standard components should lead to further, but swift, examination of this proposal."

In many cases today, Dr Caelli continued, lead times between order placement and delivery affecting Australian manufacturers might not be in the more sophisti-

cated microprocessor and memory chips but in the less obvious, though equally vital, high speed or "bipolar" support chips that were used to make the complex and advanced chips function in a complete product.

"It may be that, at moderate cost, an LSI facility, as distinct from the more costly VLSI facility, could be created by drawing together existing Australian activities in this field to specialise in manufacturing a set of standard components which seem likely to stay in short supply - in a way to 'fall through the net' of the large overseas manufacturers."

He said the key point recognised by the Minister was that microelectronics technology was rapidly becoming a tool in the workshop of manufacturers producing a variety of useful products like computers, word processors, toys, communications equipment, and so on.

"We can compare having a microelectronics capacity to installing a lathe in a mechanics' workshop or joinery," Dr Caelli said.

"In other words, Australia need not enter the race to export the actual components."

Rather, by the use of a combination of imported, standard components with Australian made specialised parts, Australia could create new and profitable products for local consumption and export markets.

This trend had already been observed overseas as so-called chip manufacturers looked "up-market" to full products, and systems companies looked "down" to manufacturing their own components, he said.

Once again the problem of venture capital in Australia had been mentioned, Dr Caelli pointed out.

"Unfortunately, the term 'risk capital' is usually used here and it is refreshing to see the Minister refer to it by the name it deserves - 'venture'."

"Without this venture capital the best ideas are worthless but I am sure the Minister need hardly be reminded that the lead in this area must be taken by governments, both state and federal, as has been the case overseas."

After all, he added, the level of capital talked about fell to insignificance against the resources oriented capital figures of the order of \$30 billion referred to recently by the Minister for Industry and Commerce, Sir Philip Lynch.

The Table of Imports showed the rapid growth in imports during 1980 and provided an insight into future balance of trade problems if Australia did not take a more self-sufficient manufacturing role, he said.

Dr Caelli warned against the concept that Australia should become involved in the information technology industry at the applications software level alone, importing all components and systems.

"This type of activity is the most susceptible to technological supersession particularly in what may be called general purpose application oriented systems such as those for word processing, automatic telephone exchanges, small business systems, etc."

"The application software as we know it today is, to use the jargon, moving 'onto silicon'."

This simply meant that, as Mr Thomson had predicted, companies involved at the hardware level would increasingly market total user products oriented towards various industries or groups such as professionals (doctors, lawyers, chemists, etc), grocery wholesaling, motor vehicle manufacture, and so on.

Dr Caelli concluded: "The 1980s is the decade in which Australia must set its manufacturing industry pattern for the next century."

"Mr Thomson has done an excellent job of focusing our attention on that."

## AUSTRALIA

### DETAILS, BENEFITS OF DOMESTIC SATELLITE FOR TV DISCUSSED

Melbourne THE AGE in English 10 Mar 81 p 11

[Article by Lorenzo Boccabella: "The Eye in the Sky; Or Is That Pie in the Sky?"]

[Text] By the mid-1980's it may be possible for outback people in the remotest part of Australia to view by satellite the TV programme 'Medical Centre' but have no access to an emergency telephone.

A large corporation in Perth will be able to transmit a wad of information instantly via satellite to a branch office in Melbourne, even during a Telecom workers' strike.

Other businesses could have private telephone networks by satellite linking branches throughout the nation.

Millions of people throughout Australia will have access to a vast new range of television services, either by direct broadcast from the satellite or from satellite-fed cable TV and national networks.

A simple telephone connection of an adapted TV set will make available to the private household a myriad of information services, ranging from advertising, educational facilities, and business data to soft porn movies.

In late 1979, the then Minister for Post and Telecommunications, Mr Tony Staley, announced that Australia would enter the space era with the launching of a domestic satellite sometime in the mid 1980s.

But the cost, the gaps in telecommunications and issues of who should control or profit from the new system will make the satellite the centre of a significant social and political debate in the 1980s.

The satellite is basically a big relay transmitting station in space. Because it is so high, it can overcome problems associated with the curvature of the Earth.

Earth-based television transmissions can only be received on a line of sight basis and there is too much interference and crowding on the short wave radio bands for mass national communications.



The proposed satellite can pick up a signal from, say, Melbourne and bounce it back to either Perth, Alice Springs or Brisbane, or all three.

The domestic satellite consists of 15 transponders, which are individual repeater transmitters.

Each transponder can carry a television picture, 1000 telephone lines, or process data at eight million words per second.

A transponder has a "footprint" on the return Earth-bound signal which can cover the whole of Australia or a region like the south-east corner, depending on the power and direction of the signal or the size of the receiving dish on Earth.

Signals are received on Earth by ground stations which have radar type dishes as aeriels.

As technology improves, half-metre wide dishes could be used on the average house to receive satellite signals directly at a cost of \$500 to \$1000. Businesses or Government departments could have far larger dishes with connections by cable to offices spread throughout a city.

The most publicised use for the satellite has been for TV transmissions to out-back Australia. It is estimated that 40,000 to 100,000 Australians do not receive adequate TV services, which is why the ABC plans to use the four higher-powered transponders to provide both TV and radio to these areas.

Naturally, metropolitan Australians will be able to receive those signals if they have the appropriate dishes on their houses. A crucial political issue facing the Government is the extent to which the commercial electronic media will have access to the satellite.

The proposed system consists of three satellites. Two will be in the sky (one operational and another on standby), while the third is on the ground. There is an option in the tender papers for a second operational satellite.

The second operational satellite also has the four powerful transponders which are capable of beaming TV programmes to individual homes with relatively inexpensive dish aeriels.

(Each of the four transponders has a concentrated "footprint." They cover the south-east corner, Queensland, South Australia, Northern Territory and Western Australia.)

The lower powered transponders can each beam to the whole of Australia, but much larger and more expensive dishes must be used for receiving.

The political problem facing the Government is that at least five distinct media groups will want access to the powerful transponders. These are Mr Kerry Packer's Consolidated Press, Mr Rupert Murdoch's News group, the combined regional TV groups and John Fairfax-Herald and Weekly Times (in which David Syme & Co. Limited, publishers of THE AGE, would have a stake).



How the Government carved up the satellite time among these groups will require as much wisdom as King Solomon.

The head of the Department of Communications, Mr R. Lansdown, said at a conference last week that commercial TV interests were pressing for the standby satellite to also be available for day-to-day use. But if the main satellite breaks down television transmission through the second satellite would be lost.

The satellites can also be used for national TV networks where programmes from one point can be relayed to TV transmitters all over Australia. The regional TV stations are opposed to this concept because it could threaten their viability.

The Packer organisation triggered the satellite debate in 1977 when it commissioned a study involving the network area.

The plan would require a reversal of Government policy on ownership and control of TV stations (present policy is that no one can own more than 5 per cent in more than two stations).

The satellite can also feed into cable TV networks. For example, a big station in Atlanta, Georgia, makes programmes which are transmitted via satellite to hundreds of cable networks all over the US.

Cable TV involves using the equivalent of telephone lines to provide up to 20 channels of television to the individual home.

Because cable TV will be a private subscription service, it is expected that censorship restrictions will be loosened to allow a view of a greater variety of programmes, including first release movies.

While the satellite will be a boom for TV if policy conflicts can be resolved, it will not particularly affect telephone systems.

In a report entitled 'Australian Communications and Satellite Opportunities' Telecom said, "There is a relatively small number of potential telephone subscribers who will not be given telephone service by the upgrading of the terrestrial (ground level) network which is largely planned to be completed by 1985."

But the report added that if the satellite went ahead, then the "rural upgrading programme will have to be slowed substantially and this programme deals with quite large numbers of subscribers and potential subscribers."

The Communications Minister, Mr Ian Sinclair, perhaps inadvertently presented an argument against the satellite at the weekend when he told the National Country Party conference: "The strongest message I received about phones was from one grazier out west who said, 'There are only three things I want: first a telephone, second, a telephone that works and third a telephone that works all the time.'"

If Telecom is right, the satellite could lead to Australians in remote areas having a high class TV service but inadequate telephones.

Besides TV, the satellite will contribute to the paperless electronic office as the 20th century draws to a close.

Linked to high-powered computers, the satellite will make instantly available reams of information at the touch of a button.

For the corporate sector, knowledge means power and money. Whoever has access to the data transmission part of the Satellite will be well placed to outdo competitors.

For the office worker, it will mean operating video display terminals for most of the day. (VDTs are TV screens coupled to typewriters).

In the home, it could mean access to training services via TV, home shopping and fingertip access to stockmarket data, and a virtual encyclopaedia of information on many topics.

Governments will also be big users of the satellite in education, transport control and education, transport control and general administration. The cost of the satellite system is broadly estimated at \$300 million.

Detractors say the satellite cannot deliver the promised services at reasonable cost because it would have Opera House-style escalations in cost.

As well, the satellite could threaten the viability of Telecom and the \$7000 million invested by the community in that system.

For the ABC it could mean that funds must be diverted from programme production to meet capital contributions to the satellite. The ABC is already making cut-backs in production as evidenced by the retrenchment of half the Melbourne Show Band.

Detractors also say that the satellite will lead to greater control of the media and communications in the hands of few because only the big companies will be able to afford to become involved.

CSO: 5500

## CORPORATE USERS OF AUSTRALIAN SATELLITE EYE POSSIBILITIES

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 17 Mar 81 p 22

[Article by Ian Cannon]

[Text] The inaugural meeting of the Australian Telecommunications Users Group (ATUG) last week has signalled the start of the race for participation in Australia's \$300 million satellite project in the Orwellian year of 1984.

Jolted into existence by the setting the Business Telecommunications services Pty Ltd (BTS) "big boys" consortium last August, ATUG includes strong representation by one of the most significant potential users of a satellite network--the banks.

The major trading banks appear to have suddenly woken up to the fact that by using a satellite system in place of their present leased lines from Telecom, they will be able to slash their existing communications costs of \$7 million a year by half.

As a member of the Australian banks' automation committee conceded last week, "Aside from the cheaper costs, we would dearly love to be in a situation whereby we can communicate from branch to branch without having to go through public networks and things like that."

In the US, the banking sector is regarded as the leader in implementing satellite technology, arising from the constant need to relay short bursts of data requiring machine accuracy to many widely distributed locations for settling of accounts.

Small wonder, then, that the banks were a trifle piqued at not being represented in the BTS consortium--which comprises information and industry members IBM, AWA and Kerry Packer's Publishing and Broadcasting Ltd with the other blue-chip companies being Myer, ACI, CRA, CSR, Ampol Petroleum, TNT, the AMP, James Hardie and BHP.

### Education

Other user groups are also beginning to surface--for example, the group being set up by tertiary educators under the leadership of Mr Ray O'Grady, who is also chairman of the National Police Working Party on Satellite Communications.

At a three-day conference on "Education and the new communications technology" at Deakin University, Geelong, in November, delegates agreed that satellite involvement in education would necessitate a comprehensive review of institutional and state boundaries made obsolete by a satellite 32,000 km above the continent.

But the rush to set up user groups is being sparked by two main factors:

--The need to earmark satellite space--only two transponders on the satellite out of a total of 23 are expected to be allocated for data transmission use; and

--The knowledge that capacity obtained on the satellite will facilitate acquisition of the equipment necessary to bring down the cost of communications.

Already the Australian Broadcasting Commission has been allocated eight transponders, commercial television stations and networks seven, the Federal Department of Transport four, and Telecom and the Overseas Telecommunications Commission one each.

Up to now the business community has been slow to realise just how much it spends on communications as well as how direct channel to channel CPU links via satellite would slash these costs.

The 12 heavies in the BTS consortium, for example, spend an estimated \$25 million to \$35 million (combined) each year on communications and have put up \$100,000 apiece, plus support staff, to have their individual and collective satellite communication requirements analysed.

The apathy stems partly from the fact that few companies have any idea how much they spend on communications.

Traditionally, paperwork from branch offices ends up doing the rounds at headquarters, but the overall communications process is seldom audited, and no single manager is made responsible for such audits.

This is reflected in a general lack of knowledge of future capacity requirements--and Telecom's monopoly on the communications infrastructure serves only to lull data processing managers and other managers into complacency.

And this may partly be why the domestic satellite system will not be as august as originally envisaged.

Present plans are for a low powered satellite operating in a single frequency band instead of a satellite with two or three frequency bands and a mix of high and low powered transponders.

The original proposal called for community ground stations operating in the 4/6 gigahertz range with one-metre dishes for individual users who would receive direct broadcasts of TV and radio signals in the 11/14 GHz range:

But now the 11/14 GHz will be the only frequency band and there will be a uniform ground station serving all remote users by direct broadcast from the satellite.

## Lower Strength

The Australian system will also have a much lower signal strength on the ground for direct broadcast compared with standards adopted by the 1977 World Administrative Radio Conference.

Experts are concerned that heavy tropical rainfall will obliterate TV signals in 11/14 GHz and suggested technical enhancements to ground stations to overcome this problem, which have apparently been shelved.

This would have serious implications for users of data services, making it unlikely that mining operations in North Queensland will be satellite customers.

The purely media user group led by John Fairfax-David Syme interests gives tacit recognition to the fact that satellite technology will change newspaper economics and content.

Newspaper groups will be able to produce a national or international newspaper for a regional market, with the new economics of production and distribution--making it possible for such papers to be transmitted over enormous distances and to smaller centres.

The WALL STREET JOURNAL already uses small digital earth stations at a central location and five remote places to broadcast newspaper pages for reproduction in smaller regional publishing plants.

And TIME magazine uses the American Satellite Corporation's Westar satellite for distribution both inside and outside the US--employing a two-satellite hop from New York to Hong Kong.

The business world at long last is coming to grips with the radical and dynamic changes that satellite technology will make to its operations.

CSO: 5500



## INFORMATION MINISTRY REPORTS PLANS FOR 1981-82

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 23 Mar 81 p 7

[Text] Work on setting up five new radio stations and three TV centres is expected to be taken up in 1981-82.

According to the 1980-81 report of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, expansion of television through microwave circuits to be provided by the Posts and Telegraph department was envisaged during the Sixth plan. Some of the TV centres particularly those of the four metropolitan cities would be linked for simultaneous telecast of programmes.

The report said a scheme for providing TV service through the Indian National Satellite (INSAT) was also under consideration of the Government. This would provide direct satellite coverage to certain economically backward, remote and inaccessible areas of the country.

The new radio stations are to be set up at Gangtok Tura, Madurai, Agra and Jamshedpur, according to the annual report of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry for 1980-81.

The new TV centres are to come up at Ahmedabad, Bangalore and Trivandrum. Besides, work on permanent stations for TV centres at Jaipur and Hyderabad, and programme production centres at Raipur, Muzzafarpur and Gulbarga is expected to start this year.

According to the report, work on the commissioning of a radio station at Suratgarh, and installation of a 200 km mediumwave transmitter at Srinagar was completed, while installation of permanent studios at Allahabad, Bangalore, Coimbatore, Siliguri, Imphal and Gwalior was nearing completion.

Eight additional TV relay centres are also proposed to be set up at Asansol, Kasauli, Kodaikanal Vijayawada, Panaji, Cuttack, Varanasi and Murshidabad. [as published] The coverage of Delhi TV transmitter would be augmented. [as published] An outlay of Rs. 86.95 crore has been allotted for TV expansion schemes during 1980-85.

CSO: 5500

LOK SABHA DEBATES INFORMATION MINISTRY BUDGET

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 27 Mar 81 p 11

[Text] New Delhi, March 26 (PTI).

A forceful plea for raising the government grant to the two Hindi wire news agencies was made in the Lok Sabha today by Mr. Virdhi Chander Jain (Congress-I).

Speaking in the resumed debate on the demands for grants of the ministry of information and broadcasting, he said he had no objection to the grant being given to the two English wire agencies--PTI and UNI--but the growth of Hindi agencies should also be ensured. Unless the Hindi agencies developed, growth of the Hindi newspapers would not be possible.

Mr. Jain demanded that a radio station should be set up in Barmer district of Rajasthan bordering Pakistan. The district is double the size of Kerala and the programmes broadcast from Delhi and Jaipur were not audible in Barmer.

Mr. R. P. Yadav (Congress-U) contended that the ministry had failed on all the major media fronts--radio, TV, cinema and newspapers.

Radio and television, he said, had lost their credibility because they were regarded as government mouth-pieces.

With small producers and directors denied encouragement, the cinema industry was putting out cheap and vulgar films which had brought about a decline in the nation's spiritual and moral values, he said.

Mr. P. Namgyal (Congress-I) said the opposition was getting too much AIR and Doordharshan coverage except in Jammu and Kashmir where, he said, the state government had managed to get these media "suppress the voice of the opposition" and project the ruling National Conference. [as published]

He said the Leh station of AIR should be strengthened with a bigger staff, a powerful shortwave transmitter and better programmes to counter Chinese propaganda from Lhasa and Pakistani propaganda from Muzaffarabad.

Mrs. Kishori Sinha (Janata) said there was no evidence of "functional autonomy" promised by the government to AIR and TV with an "unseen hand" directing the routine functioning of the two media.

With the deputy minister stressing the official nature of the two media, radio and TV reporters were guided not by professional considerations but by possible government reaction, she said. [as published]

Mrs. Sinha welcomed the action of Mr. Vasant Sathe, information and broadcasting minister, ending the distinction between English and language newspapers previously made by the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity and ensuring newsprint supplies at state headquarters. [as published]

Mr. Ashfaq Hussain (DSF) wanted the pattern of allocation of DAVP advertisements to the newspapers to be changed. [as published] The newspapers owned by the opposition and those having an independent policy were given less advertisements he complained.

Mr. A. K. Roy (Ind.) criticised the functioning of AIR and TV and wanted the ownership of newspapers to be diffused.

CSO: 5500



## MANUFACTURE, IMPORT OF COMMUNICATIONS GEAR SOUGHT

Madras THE HINDU in English 27 Mar 81 p 16

[Text]

NEW DELHI, March 28

The Government of India has approved in principle, the setting up of two new electronic switching factories with an annual production rate of 5 lakh lines each with imported technology. The location of these two factories has not yet been decided.

These two new factories will be in addition to the Palghat unit of the Indian Telephone Industry. Indian Telephone Industry's factories now having a production capacity of 10,000 lines a year on a single shift basis.

The capacity of this unit will be expanded to 1.5 lakh lines a year for producing digital electronic trunk automatic exchanges and electronic rural exchanges.

Tenders for this purpose have already been floated by the ITI under World Bank credit and negotiations with the prospective parties are expected to commence next month.

In addition to these projects, the Government has decided to import electronic switching equipment. Orders for 18,000 lines have already been placed with Nippon Electronic Steel Corporation of Japan and the first installation will be in Bombay towards the latter half of this year.

An additional 15,000 lines will be imported for installation at Calcutta, Delhi and Madras and these will be later expanded by 9,000 lines.

The P and T will also be importing 10,400 telex exchanges and these will be later expanded by 9,000 lines.

**Productionisation:** A major decision taken by the Government relates to the productionisation of the indigenous technology developed jointly by the Telecommunications Research Centre (TRC) and the ITI for the fabrication of the 1000-line electronic exchange at Rajouri Gardens, now undergoing field trials.

The Government had been considering whether this technology could be productionised to enable the country to make larger electronic exchanges.

Although a base has been built for building electronic exchanges in the future, it was felt that the country still lacks adequate testing facilities for inspection before assembly as well as the in-process production line testing.

Consequently, it has, therefore, been decided that collaboration with a reputed foreign manufacturer would be required for up-dating the indigenous SPC-1 version and for subsequent transfer of technology for setting up factories in the future.

This decision was a departure from the earlier one, under which two or

three different imported electronic exchanges would be evaluated along with the SPC-1 version for choice for manufacture under conditions.

According to the present proposals only one type of electronic exchange will be installed in Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras to ensure that electronic exchanges are fully compatible with the present Indian network and to facilitate strategies for operation and maintenance.

The choice of collaborators for making electronic switching systems in the two new factories will, therefore, depend upon the compatibility with the existing telecommunication network in India.

## BRIEFS

**SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS FOR EMBASSIES**--The Government is planning to link all Indian missions abroad through a satellite communication system to keep them informed of developments inside the country and abroad within the shortest possible time, reports UNI. Already its missions in North and South America have been linked by a satellite system. The External Publicity Division made special publicity efforts in 1980-81 to project India's firm commitment to democracy and nonalignment, according to the annual report of the External Affairs Ministry. The report says the division gave a correct interpretation and projection of the developments in Indo-China, Afghanistan, Iran-Iraq war the arms build up and the increasing super power rivalry and the reversal of the process of detente. The division made special efforts to assist all Indian missions abroad in interpreting India's foreign policy. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 25 Mar 81 p 7]

**SATELLITE LAUNCHING PLANS**--The Communications Ministry is almost ready to make use of the Indian National Satellite (INSAT), expected to be launched early next year, reports UNI. Under the ambitious INSAT programme two satellites will be in orbit providing telecommunication, TV and meteorological facilities. For the INSAT-IA network necessary international coordination for space segment and representative earth stations at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Delhi, Shillong and Hassan had already been completed and the frequencies registered with the International Frequency Registration Board (IFRB). International coordination for other earth stations has been taken up with the concerned administrations and is in advanced stages of finalisation. [as published] [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 28 Mar 81 p 5]

**CONTRACT WITH CANADIAN FIRM**--A contract has been finalised by the Overseas Communications Service with Messrs Spar Aerospace Ltd, Canada, for equipment to modify the antenna systems at the satellite earth stations at Arvi and Dehradun, says an official release in New Delhi on Monday, reports UNI. The equipments ordered are likely to be received soon and after installation/testing with Intelsat, would be commissioned by the end of April 1981, according to the annual reports of the Ministry of Communications for the year 1980-81. The equipment ordered to meet the latest requirements of Intelsat working with in-band audio has been received and commissioned at Dehradun. A similar unit is being fabricated by the development section of the OCS and is likely to be commissioned shortly. Procurement of a high power amplifier has been commissioned at the Dehradun earth station for operating a second carrier, thereby increasing the capability of the station to cover more destinations. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 31 Mar 81 p 5]

SPACE SATELLITE LAUNCH--India will be one of the first countries to benefit from the reusable U.S. space shuttle program. The Indian communication satellite INSAT 1B is to be launched by the U.S. space shuttle sometime between July-October 1983. Several countries, including India, had already booked place on the first 75 flights from the space shuttle even before it was tested. [Text] [BK171819 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 17 Apr 81]

SATELLITES IN ORBIT--The first Indian-built satellite, Aryabhata, completes its 6 years in orbit today. Although it was designed to last 6 months in orbit, the onboard technological system has continued to function satisfactorily during the past 6 years. Experience gained from Aryabhata has led to the fabrication of Bhaskara-1 and RS-1 which are still in orbit and also Apple, which is India's first indigenous experimental communication satellite waiting to be launched in the coming months. [Text] [BK190847 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 19 Apr 81 BK]

CSO: 5500/2191

## BRIEFS

**INTELSAT RATE REDUCTION SOUGHT**--The third international communications seminar (LPI) was held from 23 to 25 February to break ground for even closer cooperation among radio and television broadcasting organizations in the world. So said Dra Sumadi, president of the ABU (Asian Broadcasting Union), in a statement to the press in Jakarta on Wednesday evening [25 February]. He said the seminar held in Jakarta was patterned after similar seminars held in Cologne, West Germany and Cairo and a conference held by radio and television broadcasting organizations in Tokyo in February of last year. According to Sumadi, the theme of the third LPI was understanding and recognizing the inequities in the flow of information between developing nations and advanced nations. Nevertheless, he said, an important amount of information is passed through news broadcasts in developing nations. Therefore, Sumadi noted, this seminar sought practical ways to exchange news broadcasts among world broadcasting organizations. Inequities also exist in the broadcasting field between developing nations and advanced nations as seen from the financial and technical disparities between them. He cited as an example the use of advanced nations of satellite transmissions at a low rate since they made many broadcasts via this means while developing nations are charged a high rate because of the few broadcasts they make via Intelsat. An advanced nation pays \$240 for the first 10 minutes of a broadcast while developing nations must pay \$480 for the first 10 minutes. "This is an inequity," Sumadi said. "Therefore, we will strive for a lower rate from Intelsat and for a special rate for developing nations, for instance, \$10 a minute for an unlimited time. Broadcasting organizations from, among other countries, Indonesia, Bangladesh, India, Iran, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Iraq participated in the third international communications seminar. [Excerpts] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 26 Feb 81 p 3] 6804

CSO: 5500/8501

BRIEFS

TELEX LINKS OPEN--Seoul, April 16 (YONHAP)--Korea's Communications Ministry will open telex circuits beginning May 1 with some 2,000 foreign and Korean ships navigating the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian oceans. Ministry officials said Thursday that the circuits would be used for conveying documents and messages to and from the vessels, and that Seoul's central radio and telegraph office would relay them. The charges will be 3,000 won (4.44 U.S. dollars) for the first three minutes plus 1,000 won per additional minute for Korean ships (one dollar is worth 675 won), and 4,118 won plus 1,372 won per extra minute for foreign ships. About 1,700 Korean and 200 foreign vessels are expected to use the telex service. [Text] [SK160127 Seoul YONHAP in English 0124 GMT 16 Apr 81]

CSO: 5500/2191

## THAILAND

### BRIEFS

SATELLITE GROUND STATION--The construction of Thailand's Landsat ground receiving station will be completed for operation in the next 4 months. The ground receiving station is constructed by a Canadian company. It is located at King Mongkut Institute of Technology. The construction cost is about 154 million baht. [Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1100 GMT 11 Apr 81]

CSO: 5500/2190

## INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

### BRIEFS

**HUNGARY-ZAGREB RADIO AGREEMENT**--The workplan of Hungarian and Zagreb radios has been signed in Budapest. In the terms of the 2-year agreement, the two radios will exchange feature and music programs. They will cooperate in making programs for young people and children and will organize a joint evening of entertainment and literature.[Text] [LD170342 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1630 GMT 16 Apr 81]

CSO: 5500/2191

## ENCOTEL FORMS PART OF INTERNATIONAL ELECTRONIC SYSTEM

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 26 Feb 81 p 7

[Excerpt] Dr Robert Kwan, manager of Program Development of Comsat Laboratories, will arrive in our country tomorrow. That organization, together with the USPS (United States Postal Service), has developed an international electronic postal system, known by the acronym INTELPOST, members of which are Canada and England (already in service), the United States (shortly to enter into service), Argentina and several European nations.

During his stay in our country Dr Robert Kwan will sign, together with Ret Col Silvio Carlos Yorio, general administrator of ENCOTEL [National Postal and Telegraph Enterprise], the agreement for the incorporation of ENCOTEL into the INTELPOST system. Thus Argentina will be the pioneer in South America in the establishment of that service, the installation of which is expected to be accomplished in 60 days.

### Equipment for Telephonograms

As part of the plan for the improvement and modernization of telegraph service, ENCOTEL has asked for public bids for the manufacture, servicing, installation, adjustment and entrance into operation of the systems, the equipment and elements necessary for telephonogram service and for internal and external communication in eight important cities in the country.

The equipment will be installed in the central offices of ENCOTEL in Bahia Blanca, Corrientes, Mendoza, Parana, Santa Fe, Resistencia and Tucuman in addition to Mar del Plata.

The opening of the bids will take place on 27 March.

### Franking Machines

ENCOTEL also asked for public bids for the acquisition of 312 semiautomatic franking machines and 676 manual machines.

The bidding was attended by the firms Exportadora del Litoral, S.C.A. and Somerpost Argentina (French); Hilding Ohlsson and Ricardo R. Vidal; Gilligan Corporation (Swiss); Gilligan Corporation (German); La Franqueadora del Sur (English); Kores Corporation (United States); and Haerler Argentina SAIC, which did not quote a price.



ARGENTINA

**BRIEFS**

**NATION REJOINS INTELSAT BOARD**--The Secretariat of Communications has reported that as a result of a great effort, our country, fully conscious of the importance of its participation, is once again officially and actively represented on the Board of Governors of the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (INTELSAT). The report added that the board consists of countries or groups of countries whose investments meet the minimum established each year by the so-called Meeting of Signatories. Its function and powers are, among other things, to conceive, develop, construct, establish, exploit and maintain the space segment of INTELSAT. Excerpt  
[Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 23 Feb 81 p 7] 9204

CSO: 5500

# MINISTRY EQUIPS NEW COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 31 Mar 81 p 3

[Text] The Ministry of Communications decided to build a new and modern multi-storey building three years ago to meet the urgent need of the Ministry for sufficient space to accommodate the new communications equipments.

Construction work on this building began in 1356 and has progressed 37 per cent by the end of 1359. It covers an area of 4,257 sq. metres.

Disclosing this, Sayed Aqa Zabir, director general of planning of the Communications Ministry in an interview with a reporter of KABUL NEW TIMES said: "The construction of the new building is on the basis of a (cost [words indistinct]) contract signed with the Afghan Construction Unit and it is expected that this project will be completed by the last year of the five-year socio-economic developmental plan of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan."

"In the new building beside the administrative departments other structures are planned for installation of technical equipments, consisting of, national and international switching equipments, distant communication means, national and international trunk switchboards, section for the microwave and its attached antennas, and equipments needed for satellite communication system. With the installation of these equipments in the new building, a broader facility will be created in communication system with the provinces in the country as well as with foreign countries."

"The central postal department, under the present circumstances, with limited space, lack of proper equipments and other shortcomings cannot cope with the ever-increasing demands of the public. In the new building, therefore, the postal department will have an incoming and outgoing mails' section for local as well as for its international postal dealings. A variety of the necessary and modern postal equipments will be installed and certainly, we hope these new facilities, will greatly enhance the efficiency of the postal department.

"The new building will include conference halls, godowns, room for installation of transformer and central machines, a room for the batteries, garages, and other modern facilities" Sayed Aqa Zabir said.

"Until now the actual cost of the building could not be determined. The final cost will be known only when the work is completed. The estimated cost amounts to six hundred million afs. and has been borne by the government."

Sayed Aqa Zabir said: "The construction of the new Communications Ministry building complements a number of developmental communication and postal projects which are envisaged in the framework of the socio-economic development plan of DRA, and with the completion of this large building, not only will this ministry be in a position to remove the existing difficulties from the lack of space and modern means of communication, but the ministry would have in practice implemented its developmental plans for further expanding its facilities and improving the efficiency of the department."

The new building has four blocks. The first block in two storeys will house the postal department sections, the second block with five storeys will, also be put at the disposal of the postal department. The third block which is a high-rise structure, will house a number of technical sections as well as administrative departments. The fourth block in four storeys, will also be put at the disposal of the technical sections.

At present, construction work is proceeding in the communications channel system in the center of Badakhshan Province, Jauzjan Province and Andkhoy [word indistinct] and Faryab Province. In accordance with the [word indistinct] plan of the Communications Ministry, construction work on the buildings housing the automatic and the microwave systems will begin in Puli, Khumri and Kabul. Work on another automatic station in Kandahar Province will also begin during the same period, Sayed Aqa Zabir said.

CSO: 5500

## PLANS FOR NEW TELEPHONE NETWORK ANNOUNCED

Paris ELECTRONIQUE ACTUALITES in French 20 Mar 81 p 12

[Text] Kuwait Telecommunications have announced their program for modernizing the country's telephone network. The total cost will amount to 46 million dinars (or approximately 823 MF [expansion unknown], and the project will be completed in three phases.

The first phase will include technical studies and modernization of the Shuwaikh, Fahaheel and Fintas networks, for a total cost of 6 million Kuwaiti dinars. The second phase, which is to begin in late 1981, will consist of modernization of all telephone networks except those in Kuwait City and Salmiyah. The cost of this phase will be 16 million Kuwaiti dinars. The last phase, which should begin during fiscal 1982-1983, will be concerned with the Kuwait City and Salmiyah networks and will cost 15 million Kuwaiti dinars. A sum amounting to 9 million Kuwaiti dinars will be allotted to ancillary projects. We note that the preliminary technical studies and the program planning were carried out by the Japanese Telegraph and Telephone Company.

8946

CSO: 5500

## BRIEFS

'JANA' OFFICE IN VIENNA--Like the Iraqi and Kuwaiti press agencies, the Libyan JANA Press Agency has now also opened an office in Vienna-Doebling at the International Press Center. (Abd Salam al-Salim) has been accredited as JANA correspondent. The correspondent of the Iraqi News Agency has been working in Vienna since 1979, and the KUNA office has been in operation since 1980. The International Press Center, which is owned by the Austrian APA agency, is the joint working place of the representatives accredited in Vienna of 14 international and national press agencies and of 5 foreign radio and television services as well as important foreign newspaper, who are supplied with domestic and foreign news at the APA center. [Text] [AUL60830 Vienna WIENER ZEITUNG in German 16 Apr 81 p 3]

CSO: 5500/2191

## NIGERIA

### BRIEFS

**FEDERAL RADIO IN KANO**--The Federal Government is to build a Radio Station in Kano. The station to be known as Federal Radio (FRC2) will start transmission in September this year. Speaking in an NTV news programme, the Minister for Commerce, Alhaji Bello Maitama, said work on the site would commence in a month's time. He said a general manager has already been appointed but did not disclose the name of the general manager. The minister condemned the way and manner the Radio Kano was being run. He said the station was only boosting the image of the state government and covering up all its lapses. He said the new radio station would publicize Federal Government programmes, all the five political parties and other activities both within the private and public sectors. He said Kano State was the first to be given Federal Government aid to the tune of over 40 million Naira. He however did not expartiate. Mr Reagan's press secretary, Mr James Brady shot in the head, were also wounded in the shooting incident. The other two were said to be a Washington DC policeman and a secret service official. [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 2 Apr 81 p 3]

CSO: 5500

## BRIEFS

**MODERN TELEX EXCHANGE**--The Uganda Posts and Telecommunications Corporation is to commission a modern and computerised international telex exchange this weekend. The exchange has been installed by the Nippon Electric Company (NEC) of Japan. The exchange will handle Uganda's local and international telex traffic and in addition provide 500 telex subscriber lines. With this additional 500 subscriber lines the Corporation hopes to provide telex service to applicants on the waiting list. The new telex exchange will give many new facilities. When the exchange goes into service, the telex subscribers will experience some changes when making telex calls especially those going outside East Africa. They are advised therefore, to collect the operating procedure information from their letter boxes or to contact their nearest telephone sales office. The telex subscribers are urged to note that, for the purpose of the numbering plan, the country is divided into 6 divisions, namely Gulu whose numbering range will be 60xxx; Kampala and Entebbe 61xxx; Jinja 64xxx; Fort Portal 65xxx; Mbale 66xxx, and Masaka 68xxx. The change of numbers affects only the first two digits, and in fact very few numbers have been changed. For example, the Gulu telex subscriber 69172 (for Spinning Mill, Lira) becomes 60172, and the Kileleshwe Mines Ltd, number 60051 becomes 65051. [Text] [Kampala UGANDA TIMES in English 14 Mar 81 p 8]

CSO: 5500



NORWAY STARTS TEST LINK WITH FRANCE'S OTS SATELLITE

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 17 Mar 81 p 4

[Text] Norway has entered the satellite age. Yesterday evening the first pictures from French television were received by way of the French OTS satellite--aimed at North Africa--by an antenna company in Oslo. A nice clear picture was received on the screen by way of a newly installed 4 meter dish antenna. This activity was purely for internal experimentation. Permission to receive the broadcast was granted by the Telecommunications Directorate so that Norwegian companies and Norwegian industry could gain experience in operation and maintenance of the technical equipment.

"In view of the initiative by the private English company that wishes to transmit programs to Scandinavia, this may appear to be an attempt to introduce satellite service in an underhanded way," said development chief Asbjorn Stenerud of Janco Electronic A/S at a press conference yesterday evening. "What might come of the company's efforts remains to be seen. In any case, we will abide by the decisions of the authorities with regard to what can be transmitted if the license is granted," Stenerud said.

The English company will probably transmit films, sports, and advertising. The OTS satellite test will end on 31 May this year, but it has fuel for an additional 3 years. It is assumed that the commercial interests will be allowed to proceed so that some of the costs for the 3 years of testing can be recovered.

9336

CSO: 5500/2156



## BRIEFS

PRIVATE PHONE SYSTEMS RETAINED--A big majority of the Folketing feel, as does Traffic Minister Jens Risgaard Knudsen, that Denmark's four so-called tele-administrations should be maintained as independent institutions, but that perhaps a sort of coordination should be established between them, perhaps in the form of a telecommunications board. That is the proposal that is presented in a special report, and that the traffic minister supported in a statement that the Folketing discussed yesterday. In the Folketing only SF [Socialist People's Party] and VS [Left-Socialist Party] advocated the establishment of a state unitary telephone system. [Text] [Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 25 Feb 81 p 2] 8815

NORTH AMERICA DIRECT DIALING--Beginning 1 April it will be possible to telephone direct to the United States and Canada--with automatic dialing. And it will also be cheaper. Conversations cost 12 kroner a minute throughout the day when dialed directly. Conversations via the national telephone service will be 15 kroner. Hitherto the price per minute has been 1 krone (*sic*) in daytime hours. [Text] [Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 26 Mar 81 p 7] 8815

CSO: \$500

## FINLAND

### ERICSSON, SIEMENS LOOK FOR INCREASED SALES TO EAST BLOC

Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 24 Feb 81 p 19

[Article: "License Office Examines Domestic Level of Tele Exports"]

[Text] The license office will be taking a close look at the Soviet trade conducted by the Finnish affiliates of international corporations. The license office has directed its attention to transactions with the Soviet Union in the tele area conducted by the L. M. Ericsson Corporation and the Siemens Corporation.

Unless the companies are able to prove that the equipment sold to the Soviet Union is of a sufficient domestic source, the licensing office will not grant export licenses for them, states General Manager Kalervo Hentila of the licensing office. No license applications have yet been submitted to the office. Hentila's information about the transactions is primarily based on newspaper reports.

Recently L. M. Ericsson reached an agreement with the Soviet Union on the delivery to the Ukraine of a fully digital telephone exchange worth 35 million markkas. The transactions by Siemens was approximately a 4-million telephone exchange to Moscow.

According to Hentila the office will examine the domestic level of the transactions in detail. Attention will be placed on the domestic level of the equipment, the originating country of the parts as well as the contribution to planning, which in the electronics industry is significant.

"Every week at its meetings the licensing office goes through several transactions to the Soviet Union. In examining the domestic level of these transactions it was always a question of a Finnish or international exporter," states Hentila.

#### Most Recent Dispute Was Over Finnvalco

The licensing office does not have any strict stipulations about the domestic level of manufactured products, but if the foreign level rises to more than 20 percent, the office will automatically demand an additional report. In general, the practice has been to demand approximately an 80-percent domestic level in transactions to the Soviet Union. Most recently attention was aroused by Valco's and Finnvalco's attempt to export picture tubes to the Soviet Union even though the domestic level of the picture tubes was only approximately 50 percent.

According to Hentila the domestic level in the mutual trade between Finland and the Soviet Union is important for the reason that too large of an imported contribution becomes a currency problem for Finland. "We have for years already worked to cultivate machinery and equipment imports from the Soviet Union and thus developed our own exports. Imports from the Soviet Union are paid for by Finnish production and industry. If components from Western countries are imported and are then exported to the Soviet Union via Finland, it places a burden on our foreign-currency reserves."

Hentila mentions that in recent times several delegations from Western countries have indicated a desire to cooperate in Finland's trade with the Soviet Union. According to him these countries should first of all take care of their own exports to the Soviet Union and not burden Finland's export trade.

"When we began to trade with the Soviet Union, we were well aware of the regulations of the licensing office. We are unconditionally meeting the demands of the licensing office," states General Manager Yngve Ollus of the L. M. Ericsson Corporation.

The company has not yet submitted an application to the licensing office. According to Ollus it will be several weeks before an exact application is submitted. He points out that in the Finnish affiliate of the L. M. Ericsson Corporation there are at this time 125 individuals working in the developmental section so that the Finnish contribution to development should also be clear.

Ollus states that Soviet trade is very important to the Finnish L. M. Ericsson Corporation from the point of view of employment. "The Finnish markets are completely too small for us."

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CSC: 5500

## FINLAND

### BRIEFS

MOBILE PHONE SYSTEM AUTOMATED--It will become possible to make automated mobile phone calls in a portion of southern Finland in the beginning of 1982. The new completely automated phone system will be gradually put into operation in all the Nordic countries. Operations in Sweden will begin next August. The new system will also mean a reduction in the cost of the telephones, states Keijo Toivola, director of the radio section of the Postal and Telegraph Administration. New tests, however, have not yet been approved. The system which was developed as a cooperative effort of four Nordic countries will serve all of the Nordic area. In Finland that portion of the network which extends from Lahti to Helsinki as well as along the shoreline of the provinces of Uusimaa, Turku and Pori will be automated first. The so-called NPS exchange, which costs more than 15 million markkas, will be installed in Lahti. The intent is to continually expand the system. According to the plans it should extend to Rovaniemi in 1986. The manually operated network, which currently covers the whole country, will be retained for at least 10 years. (Test) (Helsinki HEL-SINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 5 Mar 81 p 6) 10576

CSO: 5500/2176

## TELEMATICS: POTENTIAL DANGERS FOR DEMOCRACY, PUBLIC, PRESS

Paris ETUDES in French Feb 81 pp 179-191

[Article by Francois Regis Hutin]

[Text] The introduction of an electronic telephone directory in Ille-et Vilaine and the Teletel experiment at Valizy in Yvelines have provoked differences in public opinion: Some ask themselves whether these initiatives from the powerful department of Telecommunications do not threaten pluralism of information and, ultimately, democracy. Francois Regis Hutin, general manager of OUEST-FRANCE, gives his viewpoint here.

If telematics, an astute combination of several of the latest techniques, carried within itself only the promise of industrial and commercial success, offering great export possibilities, it would be approved unanimously: it would in fact raise the prestige of French technology, at a time when international competition is becoming fiercer.

But, while the hoped-for success is obviously not guaranteed, the technology can get away from its developers. The latter, considering only the industrial aspects, do not perhaps realize sufficiently what it can modify—even drastically change—social communication and, as a consequence, the behavior of this country's citizens, who have become without knowing it the guinea pigs of experimental techniques.

Once again, it is not technical progress which is questioned, but the use that is made of it. From wanting to be ahead out of the fear of being again behind and out of the fear of losing a promising market, a dream can fire up minds to the point of veiling reality. Inevitably the day comes when the latter brutally brings everyone's feet back down to earth, in many cases leaving to the taxpayers the responsibility for paying the bill, which is larger when the stakes are higher.

## Telematics, a Technology

That said, thanks to such large and competent organizations as the CCETT (Centre Commun d'Etudes de Television et de Telecommunications) [Joint Center for Television

and Telecommunications] of Rennes or the CNET (Centre National d'Etudes des Telecommunications) [National Center for Telecommunications Studies] of Lannion, France has achieved a very good position in the world for development of a certain number of advanced techniques.

French Telecommunications is performing today because it was able to undertake the necessary efforts to make up the lag accrued in the past in telephony. This unfortunate lag ultimately proved to be beneficial: it permitted rebuilding everything, using the most up-to-date technology and choosing a network of digital telecommunications which combines telecommunications systems with data processing systems. Henceforth, it will be possible to transmit voice and script at costs which will probably diminish. We will thus have better telephone productivity, fewer lost calls, less waiting; we will also have a larger telecopying capacity. We will be able to get signals on video screens allowing interactivity or selectivity. From now on, we have in Transpac\* an active data transmission system and, on the other hand, we will also be able to pick up satellite emissions.

### Telematics, a Moving Force

The number of telephone lines has more than doubled in 4 years; it went from 6 to 14 million. The French Government decided that this activity was to have national priority. In principle, we expect 20 million lines by 1982, 28 million by 1987, and 34 million by 1992.

From 1976 to 1980, \$30 billion, more than Fr 120 billion, will have been invested for modernization and development of the telephone network. Suddenly, Telecommunications is becoming the largest civilian investor, with, for 1978 for example, 4 percent of the national investment. This is enormous when compared, for example, to the investments of the French daily press: 600 million a year, 3 1/2 billion in 6 years.

It is a governmental objective to create a dynamic telecommunications industry, competitive on the world market, as was tried with Concorde, then with Airbus in aeronautics. Over and beyond professional telematics, it has been decided to embark on telematics for the public at large, hoping to lower production costs through mass production and thus conquer the world market. It was thought that more possible foreign buyers would be secured if our domestic experience could be presented as an admitted success with the French public. Thus, we would be able to compete with the big firms in their own country, on their own soil. We would export for the greater good of our industry and our foreign trade, for the greater renown of our technicians and of France. The problem is simply to get the ball rolling and, in order to do this, to guarantee the industrialists who produce the new materials that their products will actually be paid for.

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\* Organization under the Secretariat of State for PTT [Postal and Telecommunications Service] which carries out the transmission of computer data over the public network of Telecommunications.



Things evolve quickly. The new gaps do not remain unfilled for long. We are told that we must go fast. Thus, we cannot wait while the current propagates through the public and while major demand grows progressively. And since we cannot wait, Telecommunications is making a wager and is getting ready to take the risk instead of the manufacturers. Financial results permit this: for 1979, was not their turnover Fr 17 billion their cash flow 14 billion and their net surplus 7 billion?

#### To Accelerate the Process

Here then is Telecommunications engaged in manufacture of what is modestly called the telephone directory, but which is in fact a polyfunctional terminal. Its innocuous aspect is to allow linking all the telephone subscribers to computers and to data banks. In fact, it would be installed at the subscribers' addresses as a matter of course and free of charge, instead of the printed telephone directory. The operation would have two results: on the one hand, most French households would be linked very rapidly to data processing systems, while abroad, where the public must buy or rent the equipment, this will only be done very gradually; on the other hand, the mass-produced equipment would be so inexpensive that they are thinking of being able to export 30 to 50 percent of the production starting in 1985.\*

This operation, seemingly so well put together, powerfully organized and carried out by a group of high-level men, is presented as one of the great projects, if not the only dynamic and promising project for the years to come. They say that we must be realistic and live with the times, that we must go along, immediately and thoroughly, with the constant march of progress. Belonging to an unusually centralized department which extends its activities to the country's entire geographical and social structure, the developers of this project are quite naturally also led to extend their projects to the entire country and to all of its social groupings. They are inclined to set their objectives and to set up their programs, not according to the users' needs, which have not been studied, but from their own plan and the ambitions which they hold for their department.

#### To Respond to Citizens' Needs or To Satisfy the Department?

Their dynamism and their personal technical competence, which are not in question, add to the weight of their department, whose action thus has more impact than ever. And this efficiency again reinforces their faith in and their commitment to their project. Endeavoring to take into account all the aspects of social life, they present the diffusion of these new systems as a diversified and disinterested action, and thus as a real service to the public.

They do not hesitate to consider themselves as the people best able to detect the public's needs.

"The public," one of them stated, "is anxious to see tangible services which will

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\* The electronic telephone directory will be installed at 250,000 telephone subscribers' in Ille-et-Vilaine starting at the end of 1981. Its financing will be taken care of by the Department of Telecommunications at the rate of Fr 60 million in 1979, 210 million in 1980, and 230 million in 1981.



improve communications. . . . We do not only want to make our products less expensive. We also want the man in the street to recognize the benefits of such progress as videotext\*, facsimile, etc. In part we are scientists who determine what the market needs, what the market wants."

Certainly, Mr Segard, who was still quite recently secretary of state for PTT, wishes for "a better quality telephone for a more humane society." But we are seeing, little by little, technicians wanting to make the users happy without consulting them. They claim to answer all the needs of oral, visual, and written communication. They maintain that the digital multiservices network\*\* will be capable of satisfying all communication needs by using a simple line. While all that is technically plausible, we nevertheless see confusion being created by such speeches. We see ideas, such as transmission and communication, being mixed up. We see illusions being created in the mind of the public: Everyone realizes that, in order to know what to calculate, it is not sufficient to have a hand calculator which works well. In the same way, it is not because we will be able to do everything, to see everything, and to obtain everything by telephone that we will have met people's needs for communication.

#### A Foreign Experience

There is a lot of talk about foreign experiences. Well, let's reflect a little on the experience of QUBE of Columbus [as published]. In the "Documents for a New Life,"\*\*\* Mr Jerome Diamant-Berger writes on the subject of this experience: "One need only punch a keyboard to obtain the film, the show, or the course of his choice, and one may even make his purchases without moving. QUBE invites you to curl up at home, to shut yourself up, to become attached to some 20 new channels which it is adding to the existing national networks.

What a destiny for machines supposedly designed to communicate, but which instead further isolate the individual! . . . The finger touching down on the map of the United States was that of a businessman. The one which will touch down on the map of France will be a technocrat's forefinger. Control will thus be as heavy on one side as on the other. . . . In television, they wanted to make entertainment profitable. The stake has become much more serious because it is now a question of making communications profitable!"

#### Multiplication of Exchanges or Conditioning of Citizens

The future of social relations and the fate of democracy will depend largely on the technological choices which are going to be made and the ways in which they will be

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\* Videotext allows, on the user's request, diffusion by radio waves or telephone cable of pages of information which are read on a television screen. Facsimile allows sending pages of newspapers by the same processes.

\*\* A network which conveys numerical or digital (as opposed to analog) information; a digital signal is more concise, allowing a larger number of signals to be transmitted more rapidly.

\*\*\*LA VIE NOUVELLE, No 2, April 1980 (73, rue Sainte Anne - 75002 Paris).

used. These can lead to development of exchanges of ideas between citizens. They can also be an extraordinary means of conditioning the individual. At all events, it will be necessary for the considerable investments made to pay off, and there is a chance that this concern for profitability will determine the content of the information. "Will the data banks stock only the most readily marketable information?" writes M Rozenblum\*. He also writes, "One can ask oneself about the role of government: Should it confine itself to public aspects, also play a role in giving impetus and orientation, and/or define the rules of the game?" On the subject of the direct diffusion satellite\*\*: "What does the idea of monopoly become? In any case, a specific regulation will be required, including the international level." And Mr Rozenblum notes in passing that "the report on telecommunications and satellites asked of Mr Cannac by the President of the Republic has not yet been made public."

Other questions arise: Some assert that a subject retains information received from a screen less well, and for a shorter time, because the brain is stimulated in a particular way, and the subject remains passive. Mr Lussato compares the richness of contact with a book to the flat coldness of the same document read on a screen. "This document," he says, "becomes alien."\*\*\* We all know that the medium, the vector, affects the message. It is the same as the principle of printing. But tomorrow, through this communication on a screen, the number of words and signs being very limited, we run the risk of seeing broadcast information which is reduced, syncopated, and impoverished. Moreover, people will be more or less skilled at using keyboard and software. With one stroke, a type of selection among them will be produced. It will be difficult, because of the splitting up of data, to take in a large field of information.

They claim in high places that they fear an exaggerated influence of the American data banks. But to a democrat this means that the same ascendancy by a statist data bank is also to be feared. Moreover, the key words will produce an insidious orientation. Who will have access to the system to set up these data banks and to use them? Despite its large size, will the system be able to store all data and, if space is lacking, who will then decide what data to store?

Mr Lussato asks all these questions, and many others.

"Errors in exactness in the very big computers," he says, "are very hard to detect and to repair. Costs and delays grow in exponential fashion with the mass of information, and it is here that there is diseconomy of scale, because in telematics the critical mass is exceeded. We will see unprecedented concentrations of information carrying inextricable errors. . . ."

Every wronged citizen, to assert his rights, should thus have available to him

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\* In REVUE POLITIQUE ET PARLEMENTAIRE, No 887, July-August 1980 (17 avenue Gourgaud--75017 Paris).

\*\* This type of satellite carries out the diffusion of audiovisual programs which can be picked up by users when the latter have a special antenna.

\*\*\* Cf. HUMANISME ET ENTREPRISE, No 310 (CELSA, 77, avenue de Villiers-92523 Neuilly-sur-Seine).

specialists in software\*. That is impractical for technical and cost reasons. We already notice innumerable errors due to central computers, and we also observe that there is no recourse. Centralization of data processing will multiply this aspect, and the result will be an increase in the distance and the disparity between users and the network. "The subscriber: zero ; the system, its software, its technicians: infinite."

#### Which Informants For What Information?

Is there a request? And, if so, is this request answerable? If the request is answerable, the subscriber will pay. If not, someone will have to pay for him. This may be a commercial firm, or it may be the department. But, then, who will guarantee the genuineness of the information and the honesty, objectivity, and disinterestedness of the informant? We know that government departments are always more or less tempted to practice retention of information. We also know that commercial firms are always more or less tempted to increase their publicity impact, whether by brutal bombardment or by insidious approaches. We know the risks of sector-based and fragmented information which leaves each person shut up within himself, whereas he believes he is open to the world.

The very spreading to the masses of these systems risks provoking a bureaucratic concentration. The state will be able, therefore, to increase its control over the data which the department sends directly, as well as over the "presenters," that is, the suppliers of these new information services. We will note in passing that this idea of "presenters" is new and that it permits doing without editors. But what then is the legal status of these new informants called? This has not been looked into. Nevertheless, is there not a risk that these "presenters" will be selected by money, the rich obtaining more facilities to express themselves over these new media? What will then become of the less well-off ones and, for instance, of associations? Will they have to regroup so that they can jointly purchase hours of broadcast time and pages of videotext? Here we see all the negotiations and all the additional relaying to the masses which will follow. Or, concerned for safeguarding their independence, should they shun such regroupings and exclude themselves? They will go downhill before long. Or again, perhaps, will they be able to express themselves from time to time, and who will establish when, and based on what criteria?

What will be, in these new systems, the true responsibilities of the "presenters"? For example, will genuine records of their information be kept, and, if so, how will they be obtained? Will the written press be alone, tomorrow, in leaving records and in answering to the law, while the new informants escape from legal responsibility for lack of proof?

#### Information, a Commodity?

Finally, must we not ask ourselves whether information is not a commodity like any other? Has it not in fact been partially freed from its commercial conditioning

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\* Software is the collection of logic, analysis, and programming work needed to make a data processing system operable.



by a certain ordinance of 1944? Will this ordinance be applied to these new editors or not?

Moreover, the concept of information has apparently not been analyzed seriously. The responsible Telecommunications officials consider that information is a neutral fluid. "We are vectors and only vectors," they repeat. That is perhaps true. But, once again, the message is partially made by the vector, or at least, is transformed by it. Is there not then risk of distortion, of poor or false understanding with all the social consequences which that can entail? For all these reasons, the press is uneasy. How uneasy it would be if one day the state decided to install throughout the country printing presses for the nation's press under the control of the government and the department. However much the state offered to print newspapers, the press would not be reassured; on the contrary, it would very rapidly come to see the state's printing presses as a threat to its independence.

It is therefore not sufficient for Telecommunications to proclaim: "We are only vectors; we are only suppliers of services," for the problems to be resolved. We must know whether Telecommunications and its department can, under cover of their mission, sheltered by their monopoly, and with the power of their means, impose in a democratic and liberal country a one-sided orientation on the entire public, under the pretext of helping to make the national economy profitable. Such action would be an abuse of state guidance and public power in a particularly fragile sector of human liberties, that of communication. The same problems are currently being raised in the United States. But, there, a public department is not concerned, but instead a private organization: A.T.&T. Antitrust legislation limits its activities and, in a decentralized federation such as the United States, a trust has difficulty in suddenly extending its activities to all of the states. It will not be the same for the whole of the departments of France, where such legal and structural curbs do not exist. Here, telecommunications can go undisturbed as far as they want to go. They can, under the shelter of monopoly, compete in fact with all the other information services, destroy the existing equilibrium and, finally, put in difficulty the very ones whom the Postal Service was supposed to support. That's the last straw!

#### Risks for the Press

If we are not careful, the press will lose a part of its "information service" (daily events, weather, etc.) and thus a part of its readers. It will lose a part of its advertising and thus a part of its resources. Newspapers, having become shaky, will have to make concessions to advertisers or to the government, thus losing their independence more and more. With difficulties growing, they will have no other resource than to balance their budget by cutting back on their personnel through dismissals, which generate human dramas and social conflicts. Remember that personnel costs are considerable in the press, because they exceed 50 percent of the expenses. Remember that information is sold less expensively than it costs to produce it, thanks especially to advertising precepts. Remember again that the necessary equipment is costly and that, taking into account the

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\* Promulgated at the time of Liberation to give a new legal status to the French press and to assure the safeguarding of its independence.

necessary schedules, it must be amortized in 1, 2, 3, or 4 hours per night instead of the 8 or 12 hours of production which it could supply. Some newspapers purely and simply will disappear. Others will be bought up by the most powerful commercial organizations: multinationals, private, and perhaps foreign radio or television chains. We will thus end up with the formation of multimedia groups.\* But it will not be the press which creates new radio or television broadcasting stations; it will be powerful groups which can use the whole gamut of the means of information. The press will only be the front for these groups.

Poor 1944 ordinance! Poor lawmakers of the Resistance and the Liberation who wanted to shield the press from the moneyed forces, from the influences of power, and from foreign ascendancy. From now on, anything is possible, even the worst.

### The Problem of Communication Is a Global Problem

This is truly a complete change: while, to protect the press, the government decided to restrict advertising to television, is it then true that today we no longer feel, as we did yesterday, that the press has a special role to play in democratic life? In its special role, for example, the press allows thoughtful reading which the transience of the messages on the other media precludes; special again is the fact that the written word allows complete expositions which the cramped video screen prevents.

That said, it is important today to reassert clearly that the problem of communication is a global problem. Satellites permit massive coverage of very large areas by television and radio. But these messages designed to make the public sensitive globally, to create a particular climate, should be relayed by media closer to the people, i.e., more local, and more specialized. In order to send their message, the big groups, whose power gives them access to satellites, will create local radio and television stations, will buy up specialized newspapers, and regional and local, weekly or daily newspapers. Prestigious titles which, for decades, have been a vehicle for the nation's political or philosophical thought will thus become the masks of big companies, of big interests which, through them, will penetrate farther into the home. There, when all is said and done, is the stake. We risk seeing all possibilities of criticism wither and with them all possibility of democratic life; finally, all independence. That is very serious and is worth stopping to reflect on.

But this simple reflection leads one to question present political actions which, judging from the results of well-known developments, limit the measures of Parliament to the advantage of the departments and their technicians. We are in the presence of a major political phenomenon which obliges us to always differentiate clearly, in the future, between technocracy and democracy. Here is, once and for all, the basis of the problem. That is what should be debated during the next campaign for the presidential election. While waiting, let us be permitted to say here what we consider to be possible and desirable:

--That we not "force matters," but that we measure, truthfully, the demand and the means for satisfying it by means of communication.

--That decisions be made without haste, after consultation with all the responsible officials of local, regional, and national communities. In fact, it is not admissible that, under the pretext of expanding industrial production, exports, and even employment, we take the risk of brutally destroying the present information system; if evolution must be accepted, it is necessary to avoid a sudden break.\*

--That the results of experiments be thoroughly studied and set forth, and that, before their general application, the scope of the costs, both in the amount of investments and the cost of operation, be clearly specified, especially as to what the state, the editors, and the users will each be responsible for meeting.

It would not be admissible either to neglect the traditional services of the Postal Service, whose role in this country is considerable, in favor of the new services of Telecommunications. We should be concerned, for example, with the many isolated residents whose only daily visit comes from the mailman. But, these services are subsidized less and less, although they are more and more costly.

That above all, then, the traditional role of the Postal Service should be not only safeguarded but also expanded.

--That all technological routes be explored and that preferentially the least centralized, those least designed to reach large masses of people, the most diversified, and the most reliable systems be retained.

--That the public services not be granted any new monopoly and not be allowed to use their power and their credit to encroach upon private operations. That they themselves use the new media exclusively to facilitate their own task, particularly in their relations with the users.

--That we make very sure that development of the new media not call into question the foundation of our country's information policy, especially the freedom of the press, the pluralism of the media, and their full independence from political power, pressure groups, and money.

--That we institute for their use legal rules assuring protection of the users, responsibility of editors, specificity of their messages, and that information never be given as a bonus to advertising operations, even when skillfully camouflaged.

--That access to these new media be made available to all currents of thought.

Let us remember that to be free is also to be informed. But to be informed

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\* The FRG's example is instructive in this respect. As Henri Menudier states in LA CROIX of 24 July 1980: "Some politicians [of the FRG] refuse to play the sorcerer's apprentice because the new media associated with private interests could provoke a disastrous lowering of program quality. Helmut Schmidt gladly repeats that not all that can be carried out in the technical plane is necessarily desirable for society."

requires that we know who the informant is and what aims he pursues. It is in this sense that it is important that the lawmaker's efforts at the time of Liberation not be eradicated, but that on the contrary they be recognized, developed, and clarified in all these areas.

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CSO: 5500/2139



# AGENCY DENIES PERMISSION FOR SATELLITE TV TRANSMISSION

Oslo NORWEGIAN JOURNAL OF COMMERCE AND SHIPPING in English 9 Apr 81 p 31

[Text]

The State Telegraph Administration in Norway has refused to permit the transmission of television programmes over the OTS satellite to Norwegian viewers linked to the communal aerial networks which can receive satellite signals. The reason for the refusal is that the satellite does not transmit on frequencies which have been reserved for satellite broadcasting.

A spokesman for the Te-

legraph Administration, Lavrans Grimstveit, states that reasons of principle lie behind this decision. If the programmes were to be sent on the «correct» frequency bands, the Telegraph Administration would have had no objections to allowing them to be transmitted via communal aeri-

als. A British firm plans to use the European satellite OTS (Orbital Test Satellite) to beam commercial television programmes to a number of countries including Norway. A firm of aerial

specialists in Oslo has already erected the necessary receiving equipment, and is taking in the programmes which are transmitted from France to Tunisia every evening via OTS.

The State Telegraph Administration does not wish to make it possible for the British concern, and subsequently others, to make use of frequency bands which are not intended for satellite broadcasting, says Mr. Grimstveit. On the other hand, the Telegraph Administration sees no reason to forbid the Norwegian

aerial firm to continue its experiments with a view to building up expertise in this type of broadcasting. But if the programmes had been sent out over the cable network, it would be classified as satellite broadcasting and would be illegal, according to the Administration.

Commercial television is a highly controversial political issue in Norway. However, the statement from the Telegraph Administration has made the whole situation quite clear — for the time being.

CSO: 3500

## NEW NORWEGIAN AUTOMATIC MOBILE TELEPHONE

Oslo NORWEGIAN JOURNAL OF COMMERCE AND SHIPPING in English 10 Apr 81 p 33

[Text]

Siemens A/S are now introducing a new mobile telephone set that is compatible with the new Nordic Mobile Telephone system — NMT. This mobile telephone can be used just as easily as an ordinary telephone, but is more advanced because it has more service functions. All operating organs and indicators are built into the receiver. When this equipment is delivered to the subscribers and the automatic NMT system is completed in 1985, Norwegian and Scandinavian users will have the benefit of a facility that can hardly be found anywhere else in the world. They will then be able to ring — or be called — directly from any country with which the STD system has been established.

**The apparatus**

The mobile telephone is equipped with a press-button console arranged as for a pocket calculator. Up to 35 numbers can be programmed in beforehand, and connection is established by pressing only two buttons.

A number is selected before the receiver is lifted off, and one can wait before taking the call until the road traffic permits.

This means increased traffic safety. If the subscriber called is engaged, the number can be repeated by depressing a button. The number called is shown in luminous figures, their intensity adjusted automatically according to the illumination in the car. Since all controls are incorporated into the receiver, the installation of the actual instrument is simple and does not entail much modification of the car, and can be more easily adapted to the various makes of the car. The compact central unit comprising transmitter and receiver, is accommodated under a seat in the luggage boot.

Such simple construction and installation makes the telephone mobile in several ways — it can be easily and quickly taken out of the car and used e.g. in a boat or country cottage.

This mobile telephone was developed jointly by the Siemens companies in the Scandinavian countries, headed by Siemens A/S, who will also be responsible for manufacture.

**NMT**

The new NMT system was developed by the telecommunications administrations in Norway, Finland, Sweden and Denmark, and makes it possible for a subscriber to use a mobile telephone in any of these Scandinavian countries. The system is computerized and fully automatic, and keeps track all the time of where the individual mobile telephone is situated within the four countries. In practice this means that one can automatically obtain connection with a mobile telephone subscriber without having to know whereabouts he is. The best possible speech quality is ensured by the connection being automatically linked to the base station that gives the strongest signals and e.g. switching automatically to a new base station when the subscriber moves out of one coverage area into another. The NMT system will also be more secure against listening-in than manual systems are.

It will be dearer to get the new subscriber equipment than the case of manual equipment, but the charge for calls will be lower with the automatic system than the existing manual instruments.

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